

said base plate supporting said central actuator is fitted in a frame;

each of said two outer actuators is pivotable in a direction approximately perpendicular to a direction in which said central actuator and said two outer actuators are arrayed and about a pivot approximately perpendicular to a direction in which an operating surface of each of said two outer actuators is pushed to press a contact disposed on said frame when each of said outer actuators is pivoted;

*a<sup>2</sup>  
Cont* each of said two outer actuators has a to-be-supported piece extending to a position where said outer actuator deviates from a lateral edge of said central actuator in a rotating direction as viewed from a front; each of said two outer actuators is pivotally attached at an end of said to-be-supported piece to said frame; and each of said two outer actuators has a center axis that crosses one of said pair of spindle bearings of said central actuator.--

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#### REMARKS

Claim 1 remains in the application and has been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicants are citizens and residents of Japan and this application originated there.

Accordingly, the amendments to the specification are made to place the application in idiomatic English, and the claims are amended to place them in better condition for examination.

6715/65955

An early and favorable examination on the merits is  
earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
COOPER & DUNHAM, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay H. Maioli".

Jay H. Maioli  
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JHM/AVF/pmc

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

--[In a high-operability] A switching device [(11) with an] having a central actuator and two [other] outer actuators disposed [apart] separately from the [one] central actuator on [both its] two sides, wherein the [one] central actuator is a cylindrical dial (23) supported rotatably [about] and depressibly by a pair of spindle bearings (26) included in a base plate [(25) and depressibly,]; the base plate (25) supporting the dial (23) is fitted in a frame [(22),]; the outer actuators are pivotable in a direction [generally perpendicularly] approximately perpendicular to a direction in which the three actuators are arrayed and about a pivot [generally] approximately perpendicular to a direction in which operating surfaces [(35) thereof] of the outer acutators are pushed[,] to press a contact (30) disposed on the frame [(22) when the outer actuator is pivoted,]; and each of the outer actuators has a to-be-supported piece (34) extending to a position where the outer actuator [is deviated away] deviates from [the] a lateral edge of the dial (23) in the rotating direction as viewed from the front. The outer actuator is pivotally [supported] attached at the end of the to-be-supported piece (34) to the frame (22) and [thus] has a center axis crossing the pair of spindle [bearing] bearings of

the central actuator.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) A switching device including one central actuator and two outer actuators disposed [apart] separately from said central actuator, one of said two outer actuators located on [both its sides] each of two sides of said central actuator, wherein:

said central actuator is a cylindrical dial supported depressibly and rotatably [about] by a pair of spindle bearings of a base plate [and depressibly];

said base plate supporting said central actuator is [disposed as] fitted in a frame;

each of said two outer actuators is pivotable in a direction [generally perpendicularly] approximately perpendicular to a direction in which [the three] said central actuator and said two outer actuators are arrayed and about a pivot [generally] approximately perpendicular to a direction in which [the] an operating surface [thereof] of each of said two outer actuators is pushed[,] to press a contact disposed on [the] said frame when each of said outer [actuator] actuators is pivoted; [and]

each of said two outer actuators has a to-be-supported piece extending to a position where said outer actuator [is deviated away] deviates from [the] a lateral edge of [the

dial] said central actuator in [the] a rotating direction as viewed from a front[, and]; each of said two outer actuators is pivotally [supported] attached at [the] an end of [the] said to-be-supported piece to [the] said frame; and [thus it] each of said two outer actuators has a center axis [crossing the] that crosses one of said pair of spindle [bearing] bearings of said central actuator.--